



Foreign Agricultural Service

**GAIN Report**

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 5/20/2003

GAIN Report #NL3028

## **The Netherlands**

### **Market Development Reports**

### **Export Opportunity for Stone Fruit**

## **2003**

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#### **Report Highlights:**

**Low yields are expected for stone fruit from Mediterranean countries. This could create opportunities for US exporters.**

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
The Hague [NL1], NL

All peaches, nectarines and apricots in The Netherlands are imported. The Mediterranean countries are the main suppliers of these fruits to the Benelux. This is especially the case for peaches and nectarines.

Recently published figures forecast a low yield for stone fruit in Italy, Spain, France and Greece. Unfavorable weather conditions in general and specifically the late ground frost will result in a 30 percent lower yield. Countries affected most are Greece but also Italy and France and to a lesser extent Spain.

Due to lower yields, imports are expected to come from non-EU countries. Due to the favorable exchange rates, US stone fruit is forecast to become competitive on the European market. This will create new opportunities for US stone fruit exporters.

<b>Table 1: Dutch Import of Peaches, Nectarines &amp; Apricots, 2001</b> x 1,000 kg			
	<b>Peaches</b>	<b>Nectarines</b>	<b>Apricots</b>
Italy	3,774	6,033	29
Spain	2,704	6,894	1,411
France	2,032	10,649	596
Greece	1,603	2,696	200
Other EU	264	1,266	1,131
Non-EU	1,341	4,162	210

Source: Product board of Horticulture, 2003

<b>Table 2: Yield forecast 2003</b> x 1,000 kg			
	<b>Peaches</b>	<b>Nectarines</b>	<b>Apricots</b>
Italy	672,500	513,100	93,900
Greece	42,000	8,000	60,000
Spain	286,100	375,200	116,900
France	202,800	144,800	99,400
Total 2003	1,202,400	1,041,100	370,200
Total 2002	1,649,000	1,389,900	533,500

Source: Fruitteelt Magazine, 2003

Table 3: Exchange rate EURO vs US Dollar

Source: US Government, 2003

